

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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67

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-12

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OST-04 RSC-01 GAC-01 SCEM-02

RSR-01 /095 W

----- 067690

R 301903 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8819

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 9023

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: TECH

SUBJECT: URANIUM ENRICHMENT

DEPT PASS AEC

EC BRUSSELS 1746

1. GENERAL ADMINISTRATOR OF FRENCH ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY ANDRE GIRAUD ANNOUNCED THAT GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT AT PIERRELATTE HAS BEEN PROVIDING FOR SOME TIME SMALL AMOUNTS OF ENRICHED URANIUM FUEL FOR CIVILIAN NEEDS. UP TO NOW, PIERRELATTE'S PRODUCTION WAS THOUGHT TO BE FOR MILITARY NEEDS. EXCESS FOR CIVILIAN MARKET IS REPORTED TO ARISE FROM BOTH HIGH PRODUCTION LEVELS AND DECREASED MILITARY NEEDS. GIRAUD WAS QUOTED AS SAYING PRICE WOULD BE COMPETITIVE WITH THAT ON WORLD MARKET. BOTH LE FIGARO AND LES ECHOS REPORTED THIS IN CONTEXT OF US AEC PROPOSED FOR CHANGING URANIUM ENRICHMENT CRITERIA. CEA OFFICIAL CONFIRMED GIRAUD STATEMENT TO S/ ATT.

2. COMMENT: ONLY USE KNOWN TO US OF PIERRELATTE PRODUCTION FOR CIVILIAN PURPOSES WAS IN FUEL ELEMENTS OF FIRST PHENIX FAST BREEDER CORE. PIERRELATTE IS ONLY FRENCH GASEOUS DIFFUSION PLANT. DESIGNED TO FILL MILITARY NEEDS, IT BECAME OPERATIONAL AT LOW ENRICHMENT LEVELS IN 1965 AND AT HIGH LEVELS IN 1967. SUCCESSIVE IMPROVEMENTS HAVE RAISED COST OF FACILITY TO REPORTEDLY \$1  
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BILLION. OUTPUT IS CLASSIFIED BUT IS NOT LARGE IN COMMERCIAL  
TERMS, PROBABLY ON ORDER OF SEVERAL HUNDRED METRIC TONS OF SEPAR-  
ATIVE WORK ANNUALLY. SMALL PART OF OUTPUT FOR CIVILIAN NEEDS  
THEREFORE WOULD NOT MAKE APPRECIABLE DENT IN PROSPECTIVE CIVILIAN  
FUEL REQUIREMENTS.

IRWIN

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TECH  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 30 MAR 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1973PARIS09023  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** n/a  
**Errors:** n/a  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Office:** ACTION SCI  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** kellerpr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 14 NOV 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <14-Nov-2001 by elbezefj>; APPROVED <20-Dec-2001 by kellerpr>  
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30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** <DBA CORRECTED> wfs 980108  
**Subject:** URANIUM ENRICHMENT DEPT PASS AEC EC BRUSSELS 1746  
**TAGS:** TECH, FR, n/a  
**To:** EC BRUSSELS  
SCI  
SECSTATE WASHDC  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005